GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3481
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2002
CORRUPTION
RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the US Treasury Secretary during his visit to the country on November 22, 2002 remarked that `India may have moved up in the World Economic Forum`s latest global competitiveness ranking` but for widespread corruption and bribery;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take some measures to curb the widespread corruption in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND M OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE. (SMT.VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) & (b): Government is aware of the report of Transparency International concerning India`s ranking in the Corruption Perception Index. The Government is fully alive to the need to root out corruption and to ensure transparency in its dealings, as far as possible.

(c): The Government has taken several measures such as setting up of 90 facilitation centers in various Ministries/Departments/Organisations to provide information and assistance to the public regarding the schemes andprocedures of the organization concerned. Also 71 Central Government Organisations have Citizens` Charters reflecting the commitment of the concerned ministries, departments or agencies to provide specific services within the timeframe specified. Some ministries and departments have also developed their own websites for promotion of E-governance. The Freedom of Information Bill 2000 has also been introduced in Parliament for ensuring greater transparency and openness in the functioning of Government and public bodies.